

Claims

- [c1] A level adapted for use in vertically limited spaces comprising a reference surface;
a vial of fluid containing a bubble and disposed parallel to said reference surface, said vial being adapted to center said bubble when said reference surface is level;
a prism disposed above said vial and oriented to direct an image of said vial along a substantially horizontal line of sight.
- [c2] A level according to claim 1, in which said prism has a 45 degree surface intercepting said image of said vial and directing said image of said vial along said substantially horizontal line of sight.
- [c3] A level according to claim 2, in which said 45 degree surface of said prism is partially transmissive and further comprising a light source directed through said partially transmissive surface toward said vial.
- [c4] A level according to claim 1, further comprising adjusting means for adjusting the orientation of said prism to tilt said line of sight in a vertical plane.

- [c5] A level according to claim 2, further comprising adjusting means for adjusting the orientation of said 45 degree surface to tilt said line of sight in a vertical plane.
- [c6] A level according to claim 3, further comprising adjusting means for adjusting the orientation of said 45 degree surface to tilt said line of sight in a vertical plane.
- [c7] A level according to claim 1, further comprising rotation means for adjusting the orientation of said prism to rotate said line of sight in a horizontal plane.
- [c8] A level according to claim 7, in which said prism has a 45 degree surface intercepting said image of said vial and directing said image of said vial along said substantially horizontal line of sight.
- [c9] A level according to claim 8, in which said 45 degree surface of said prism is partially transmissive and further comprising a light source directed through said partially transmissive surface toward said vial.
- [c10] A level according to claim 7, further comprising adjusting means for adjusting the orientation of said prism to tilt said line of sight in a vertical plane.
- [c11] A level according to claim 8, further comprising adjusting means for adjusting the orientation of said 45 degree

surface to tilt said line of sight in a vertical plane.

- [c12] A level according to claim 9, further comprising adjusting means for adjusting the orientation of said 45 degree surface to tilt said line of sight in a vertical plane.
- [c13] A level according to claim 1, in which said vial is substantially circular, whereby said bubble responds to the orientation of said reference surface along any axis.
- [c14] A level according to claim 13, in which said prism has a 45 degree surface intercepting said image of said vial and directing said image of said vial along said substantially horizontal line of sight.
- [c15] A level according to claim 14, in which said 45 degree surface of said prism is partially transmissive and further comprising a light source directed through said partially transmissive surface toward said vial.
- [c16] A level according to claim 13, further comprising adjusting means for adjusting the orientation of said prism to tilt said line of sight in a vertical plane.
- [c17] A level according to claim 14, further comprising adjusting means for adjusting the orientation of said 45 degree surface to tilt said line of sight in a vertical plane.